

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

Construction Looms For New Town Center

Major Demolition Started as Shopping Center is Razed

A commercial era in downtown Rockville symbolically concluded on Thursday, Aug. 19, as major demolition began on what was formerly the major strip shopping center in the City.

While the demolition debris is being cleared in early September, excavation will be underway for the garage at Maryland Avenue and East Middle Lane. Construction will then begin immediately on the new Rockville Town Square project, which is part of Phase I of Rockville's future Town Center.

Whiting-Turner Construction began demolition preparation on Aug. 14 on the shopping center that was located along North Washington Street (between East Middle Lane and Beall Avenue) and was anchored by a Magruder's Grocery Store.

Preliminary work on the site began on July 13 after the last of the 23 tenants of the shopping center moved out, most to new locations. The shopping center is being removed to make way for a public parking garage and some of the residential and retail projects that will be part of Phase I. The 12.5 acres that cover this portion of Phase I will be called Rockville Town Square by developer RD Rockville, LLC.

A construction fence around the site has eliminated pedestrian access to some sidewalks in Town Center. The fence extends to the curbs of some sidewalks adjacent to North Washington Street and East Middle Lane because the sidewalks will be replaced as part of the new Town Center. Pedestrians are advised to walk on



Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo operates the machinery that took down the first major pieces of the former strip shopping center on North Washington Street.

the side of the street that has sidewalk. Construction observers are not permitted inside the construction fence.

On July 12, Rockville's Mayor and Council approved a total initial contract of \$8,045,930 with Whiting-Turner for construction services associated with the Rockville Town Square project. On July 26, the Mayor and Council approved an additional contract of \$11,038,070 with Whiting-

Turner, bringing the award for public improvements to \$19,084,000.

The construction contracts include about \$14,950,000 for public improvements (such as utilities, concrete, asphalt paving, landscaping, demolition and amenities) and about \$4,134,000 toward construction of the first of three public parking garages.

Phase I of Town Center, which has an estimated public-

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private cost of about \$352 million, will be developed by RD Rockville, LLC. It will include about 630 luxury condominium and apartment homes and approximately 170,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space that will be owned by Federal Realty Investment Trust.

Updates on Town Center construction, including progress photos, will be available on the City Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov. [RR](#)



MOVING RIGHT ALONG...
This family is stopped in front of the Rockville Regional Transportation Center, which will be a stop on a new Ride On bus service that will link the Falls Grove community to the Shady Grove Metro beginning Sept. 7. For more information about this and other new projects, see the City Projects Update insert in this Rockville Reports.

Chili Cook-off Heats Up New Arts and Music Fest

A revitalized downtown fall event will debut as the first Rockville Arts and Music Festival on Saturday, Sept. 18, around Courthouse Square Park in Rockville Town Center.

The event, which will run from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., will become the new home of the International Chili Society's Chesapeake Bay Regional Cook-off and will be backed in flavor by the New Berth Brass Band of New Orleans.

Rockville's previous fall festival, "The Spirit of Rockville," was chiefly dedicated to celebrating the vast diversity of the City. The new festival maintains a celebration of cultures while expanding to include many other features—including the 24th annual chili cook-off formerly held in Alexandria.

"We were approached by Hard Times Café to bring the

chili cook-off here and we thought that that was a fun idea," said Mike Henry, Rockville's coordinator of special events. "Together with the music, art vendors and activities for children, we think we have taken our festival to a level that will rival some of the top fall events throughout the Washington area."

The cultural theme of the former Spirit of Rockville will be reflected through an eclectic blend of bands and dancers representing music from around the world. More than 30 local artists will display and sell their art as well.

The Rockville Volunteer Fire

Department will be in attendance again this year with demonstrations as well activities for children. The "Safety in the Square" activities also will include opportunities to sign up for the "Beacon of Safety" emergency light bulb program co-sponsored with City of Rockville Police.

The Chesapeake Bay Regional Chili Cook-off, co-sponsored by Hard Times Café and radio station MIX 107.3, had been held for the past 23 years in Alexandria.

"The City of Rockville has stepped up to the plate big time with us," said Doug Welsh of Hard Times Café.

"This marriage of our two events will maximize both of our resources to put on a premier event."

The competition will draw 100 pre-registered chefs in the categories of ICS red chili, ICS green chili, freestyle, ICS salsa and showmanship. The showmanship winner will receive \$1,000.

Though an ICS membership is required to compete in the red, green and salsa competition, the public is encouraged to compete in the freestyle competition as well as sample the chili. Registrations for the competition will end on Sept. 11 or when entries reach a total of 100. For more information and registration forms visit www.hardtimes.com.

The rain date for the festival is Sunday, Sept. 19. [RR](#)

— Contributed by Amy Orndorff



September's Best of Rockville

Sept. 11
Doggie Dip Day
Rockville's pooches can take a dip in the Rockville Swim Center's outdoor pool on Saturday, Sept. 11, from 12 noon - 4 p.m. \$3 per dog for residents/ \$4 non-residents. For more information, call 240-314-8754.

Sept. 16
Dig It!
Swing into fall with the J Street Jumpers at the last Dig It! concert of the season on Maryland Avenue in Rockville Town Center. 7 p.m. Free. Call 240-314-5022 for more information.



Sept. 26
Rockville Concert Band
The group of talented residents (photo, left) will perform patriotic marches, show tunes and more at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. 3 p.m. Free, but donations accepted. Call 240-314-8681 for more information.

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An Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation employee conducts research to develop a vaccine to prevent tuberculosis. The organization will add a research labratory in Rockville next year.

TB Research in Rockville May Save Lives World-Wide

Rockville has developed an international reputation for the groundbreaking discoveries that have emerged from its biotechnology and high technology laboratories and research centers. The human genome was first decoded in Rockville, changing the nature of most biotech research world-wide. Because many of these discoveries often do not make news beyond medical and scientific journals, most people who live in the City, and those who work in other fields in Rockville, do not realize the importance of research going on around us. On a regular basis, Rockville Reports will look at some of the thrilling work evolving in the Rockville area.

Microsoft founder Bill Gates does not live in Rockville, but he has touched the City economy with \$82.9 million.

Those funds are part of a grant awarded to Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation to develop a vaccine to prevent tuberculosis.

Aeras Global is the world's only nonprofit biotechnology group with this important mission. The group was awarded the grant by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation earlier this year to develop a TB vaccine for worldwide distribution. The Bethesda-based organization will be developing a 13,000-square-foot laboratory at the Alexandria Research Building at 1405 Research Boulevard in Rockville next year. The new research laboratory will house a staff of 20 scientists supported by a four-person operational team.

"We are excited at the prospect of having a TB vaccine developed by Aeras right here in our City, which will help to save the lives of

millions of people," said Sally Sternbach, executive director of Rockville Economic Development, Inc., Rockville's independent business economic arm.

About eight million new cases of TB are reported each year, according to the World Health Organization, and the deadly disease claims the lives of two million people annually. Tuberculosis also is the leading cause of death for HIV-infected individuals and in women of childbearing age. In many developing countries, business and economic problems also have hampered the availability and distribution of new vaccines.

The research and development conducted by Aeras in Rockville will help keep the costs associated with vaccine distribution affordable. By working with the world's leading scientists as well as governments of the U.S., Europe, South Africa and specific high-burdened countries, Aeras plans to develop, test and distribute a new vaccine to control the global epidemic within 10 years.

Founded in 1997, the organization is led by Jerald Sadoff, who has worked in vaccine development for more than 30 years. Prior to joining Aeras as president and CEO in 2003, Sadoff was the clinical director for vaccine development at Merck and director of the Division of Communicable Diseases and Immunology at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Silver Spring.

"Rockville residents will certainly find pleasure in knowing that their city played a part in the fight against tuberculosis," said Sternbach, "and in helping save lives all over the world." [RR](#)

Sale of Library Site Approved

Rockville took another major step toward creation of its new town center on Aug. 2 as the Mayor and Council formally approved a contract to sell to Montgomery County the land that will become home of the new Rockville Regional Library.

The Mayor and Council gave unanimous approval to sell the approximate one-acre site that will be a key anchor of the 15 acres overall that comprises Phase I of Town Center redevelopment.

The Mayor and Council selected the site—on the southwest corner of the intersection

of Beall Avenue and the planned Maryland Avenue Extended—on June 17, 2002. That decision put in motion all of the other plans that evolved to become Phase I, including the adjacent Rockville Town Square project of residential and retail uses.

In mid-August, as part of the contract with Montgomery County, the City began site preparation with grading and removing soil. The actual closing of the sale is expected to take place in late September, after site preparation has been completed.

Rockville will receive \$2,317,650 from the county for the site and an additional \$170,000 toward the extension of utilities and site preparation costs.

Upon completion, the new Rockville Library will be the largest in the Montgomery County Library system. The building overall will be about 90,000 square feet, with about 63,000 square feet devoted to the library. The remainder will be used for administrative offices and two meeting rooms that will be available to the public. [RR](#)

Readiness in Rockville: Not Many Well-Prepared

Despite several storms over the past two years that have left area residents without power for days, many Rockville residents remain unprepared to handle another emergency situation that could impact their homes for 72 hours.

An informal and non-scientific survey of residents conducted through Rockville's Meter Reader and the Rockville City Web site from April through August showed that only 13 percent of respondents considered themselves "Very prepared" in case an emergency arose and 60 percent said they were "Somewhat prepared." A total of 25 percent responded that they were "Not very" or "Not at all" prepared.

Residents appear even less prepared for an emergency on the road than they are at home. Of those responding, 79 percent said they do not carry emergency supplies in their vehicles.

Responses to another question in the survey will be discouraging to fire protection agencies that have been campaigning for families to devise and practice emergency escape plans in case of fire. Almost half of those responding (49 percent) said their families do not have an escape plan.

Perhaps surprising to some in a positive manner was that 67



Some Rockville residents were left without telephone service or power for days after Tropical Storm Isabel struck in September 2003. The storm knocked down utility lines as pictured above.

percent of respondents said they would recognize the signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

"We know these results are not scientific, but we thought it would be interesting to try and find out how well-prepared our residents are for the next emergency," said Neil H. Greenberger, Rockville's Public Information Manager who serves on the Washington Region emergency preparedness task force. "A lot of agencies have been saying we have to get more people prepared, but no one really knows where to start because there is no baseline data on what people have already done to be prepared."

Although 73 percent of respondents indicated levels of preparedness at home, in a

more specific response, 63 percent said they did not have an emergency supply kit set aside for immediate use.

The results of this survey are important because Washington area emergency management agencies have never collected data on the preparedness of area residents. The results of the Rockville survey will be forwarded to those agencies.

The City of Rockville's Public Information Office expresses its thanks to the 150 families who participated in the survey. The survey questions were sent out along with City of Rockville utility bills in spring. Residents were asked to mail in results or respond via the City Web site. [RR](#)

See the Survey boxed in below for complete results.

Rockville Emergency Preparedness Survey

Conducted April 14-August 13, 2004
150 participants: Surveys via Web (85) and Meter Reader (65)

- How well prepared do you feel your household is to handle an emergency that could have an impact of 72 hours?

Very prepared	13%
Somewhat prepared	60%
Not very prepared	22%
Not prepared at all	3%
Preparation not necessary	0%
No response	2%
- Does your family have an emergency supply kit SET ASIDE FOR IMMEDIATE USE that could sustain all members of the family for 72 hours?

Yes	33%
No	63%
No response	4%
- Which of the following supplies does your household have available that could sustain all family members for 72 hours? (note: multiple items could be selected)

Bottled water	71%
Flashlights with batteries	93%
A variety of canned food	84%
Corded or mobile phone	78%
A portable radio or TV that can be operated on batteries	78%
None	2%

- Does your family have a fire escape plan for your home?

Yes	48%
No	49%
No response	3%
- Do you keep emergency supplies in each of your vehicles?

Yes	21%
No	79%
No response	0%
- Do you know the symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke?

Yes	67%
No	32%
No response	1%
- Do you know where to find information about West Nile Virus, tornado safety or flood safety?

Yes	54%
No	45%
No response	1%
- If your power went out for an extended period, who are you likely to call first?

Police	1%
Fire Department	0%
Power company	95%
City of Rockville	2%
Montgomery County	1%
No response	1%

New Street Is Newmarket

The newest street in Rockville Town Center will be called "Newmarket Street."

Rockville's Planning Commission in July approved the name for a new street that will be created as part of the Rockville Town Square development. Newmarket Street will run north-south between East Middle Lane and Beall Avenue.

The street originally was to be called "Market Street," but many communities in Montgomery County have streets of the same name. The county has discouraged multiple streets with the same name to avoid confusing emergency personnel. [RR](#)

ARNA To Host First ‘Development’ Conference On Thursday, Sept. 23

Virtually every area of Rockville has ongoing, or planned, development projects that are part of the City’s continued growth. Although Rockville prides itself on the amount of public input that is part of every approval process, as projects progress, residents often have questions about how the developments will affect their futures.

The Alliance of Rockville Neighborhood Associations (ARNA), in conjunction with the City’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, will hold a free conference to address those questions on Thursday, Sept. 23, from 7-9:30 p.m. in the F. Scott Fitzgerald Social Hall. ARNA, which was formed two years ago, is the organization whose membership is comprised of community leaders from various homeowner and civic associations throughout the City. This will be the fifth ARNA neighborhood conference.

The “Development In and Around Rockville” conference will provide a forum for community members to network

with each other and discuss future Rockville projects with developers, City staff, members of the City Planning Commission and the Mayor and Council.

“We will create one evening where people from across Rockville can learn about many of the projects going on and give them an opportunity to exchange information,” said Art Casanova of ARNA. “These projects are typically introduced one at a time, but the conference will bring them all together for the first time so people can get a feeling for the magnitude and direction of the plans for their area.”

The conference will be organized by the location of developments, with the four main clusters identified. Those areas will be:

- Twinbrook/Lower Rockville Pike Cluster including Congressional South, Rollins Ridge and Twinbrook Commons
- Town Center Cluster including the Town Square construction, the East Rockville Neighborhood

Plan, the KSI Services proposal and Regal Cinema parking lot projects

- Northern Rockville Cluster of King Farm, Fallsgrrove, the proposed “The Gateway” development and Shady Grove Sector Plan
- The Tower Oaks office park

Since 2002, ARNA has been encouraging interaction among Rockville’s neighborhood associations. ARNA facilitates communication between those groups and the City, nonprofit organizations and the City’s business sector.

“There is a lot of new development planned, but it is not a freight train coming at you—you get to help steer it in the right direction if you are active and pay attention,” said ARNA chairman Jim Gilchrist. “The City makes available the information on the process by which you can get involved, so come out, join up and make a difference.”

For more information about ARNA or the conference, contact your neighborhood association leaders or call Gilchrist at 301-294-9258. [RR](#)

White Knight: Seniors Receive Largest Donation

It has been eight months since Norman White died, but long before his death, he arranged for a gift that would continue helping his friends at the Rockville Senior Center well after he was gone.

Two years before he died, White contacted Jill Hall, the Senior Center supervisor, saying he wanted to help the people who had made the last years of his life so enjoyable. White then arranged for a Life Estate Deed which transferred ownership of the property to Rockville Seniors, Inc., but allowed him to live in the house on Wade Avenue until his death. In July, the home was sold for \$210,000.

The Senior Center serves more than 2,000 seniors monthly, and for many, it becomes a place to go daily and enjoy the latter years of their life. For most, it becomes a place where they discover new things and get re-energized with programs and activities that busy lives never allowed in their younger years.

White was a World War II veteran who later worked in the electronics industry and became active in the Knights of Columbus. He wanted others to be able to enjoy the same programs and services he had at the Senior Center.

“Rockville has done a lot for me—it is just a way of giving back a little bit,” White told *The Rockville Gazette* after presenting city leaders his plan to donate his home at a city public hearing

in May 2003.

RSI has had a “planned giving program” for eight years in an effort to enhance what the City budget provides. In addition to furniture and equipment purchases, RSI sponsors the annual Senior Center Health Fair and two seasonal bazaars.



White’s large donation has enabled RSI to set up an endowment fund, something it had not been able to do in years past, in which interest

from the invested funds could pay for short-term needs. The endowment, called the “Living Legacy Campaign” has an eventual goal of \$1 million.

The Center hopes that others will follow White’s lead in donating property, but are open to just about any other gifts, including bequests, life income/charitable trusts, life insurance and cash donations.

For more information visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter.

All donations are tax deductible, and people who donate \$500 or more are recognized with a hand-painted flower on the donor’s mural in the Center’s lobby. The higher the donation, the higher the flower is placed on the wall.

Hall said some special arrangements may have to be made to recognize White’s donation. “We say we will have to make a hole in the ceiling,” she said, “and put [White’s flower] on top of a high pole.” [RR](#)

— Contributed by Amy Orndorff

Rockville Town Center: Thoughts of Phase II

Work has started on the Rockville Town Square development that will compose most of Phase I of Rockville’s future Town Center. The first buildings are scheduled to open in fall 2006.

And already the Mayor and Council are thinking about Phase II.

In July, the Mayor and Council got their first look at a concept plan for Phase II, the triangular-shaped block that is bordered by Beall Avenue on the south and extends north to the point where North Washington Street meets Maryland Route 355 (a gas station is currently at that northern point).

The plan reflects the thoughts of the 10-member Phase II Advisory Group appointed by the Mayor and Council in Sept. 2003.

The concept plan for the approximately 17.5 acres will complement the 15-acre Phase I, which is just south of Beall. Differing from Phase I, the plan for Phase II calls for less concentration of retail space



The aerial photo above details the anticipated area for Phase II of Town Center. The concept idea includes open space and a new hotel.

and for several areas of open space including a one-acre park. A hotel, which would be the only one in Town Center, is called for in the plan.

A part of Phase II that has been approved by the Planning Commission is the pro-

posal by KSI Services, Inc., to build 325 new housing units on the corner of Beall and North Washington Street. KSI’s plan, which would include some retail space, would replace the current building on the site that now houses a Bank of America branch.

The plan calls for the ADP office building to remain, but parcels such as the vacant former Giant grocery store and Orange Ball Billiards would be replaced.

Nine private owners currently own parcels in the Phase II area. With the focal point of Town Center now established, the City hopes other phases of the plan will be redeveloped directly by the individual landowners and market forces. The concept plan gives those owners a first-step blueprint of what the City would like to see as part of the future Town Center.

For details on all of Town Center progress visit www.rockvillemd.gov. [RR](#)

Lincoln Park Seeks Community Preservation

Members of the Lincoln Park Civic Association, Peerless Rockville and the City have begun the process for preserving the character and history of the first residential subdivision that made building lots available for sale to African American families in Montgomery County.

The groups held a community preservation meeting on July 20 to form a committee made up of 17 citizens that will oversee the process. The committee will meet with City staff over the next three months to identify the hallmarks of Lincoln Park, select preservation methods to use and prepare design guidelines as needed.

“The community wants to preserve its family and develop-

ment history and completely unique character,” said Judy Christensen, of the City’s Planning Division. “The information gathered through the community preservation process will be of interest to many throughout the City.”

Lincoln Park was established in Montgomery County in 1891 and became part of Rockville in 1949.

The community preservation task force is one part of the process to update the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Plan, recommended by the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Advisory Group. The preservation plan is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the public in January 2005 and to the Mayor and Council in the spring of 2005. [RR](#)

Riding the Right Route: Free City Bike Map Now Available

A new, free map of Rockville is now available at City facilities to help bicyclers plan their routes and also learn more about bicycling in Rockville.

The comprehensive Rockville Bicycle Map outlines more than 20 miles of the City's multi-use paths, including the 10-mile Millennium Trail, designated neighborhood bike routes and a suggested route people can take to travel across the City. Also included are details on bicycle safety, guidelines for following Maryland laws, maintaining personal bicycles, how to use bikes in conjunction with public transit and ways for citizens to volunteer for the City's Bike Advisory Committee.

The map is available at no charge at the front desk counters at Rockville City Hall, the Rockville Senior Center, the Lincoln Park Community Cen-



ter, the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, the Rockville Municipal Swim Center, the Rockville Regional Transportation Center at Falls Grove, the Croydon Creek Nature Center and the Rockville and Twinbrook libraries. For details on these locations visit www.rockvillemd.gov.

"The new bicycle map is an important resource for people who enjoy bicycling in the City. It will encourage casual bikers to get out more and it also has information that makes biking around the City easier for beginners," said Betsy Thompson, a program development coordinator for the City's Recreation Department. "We have had many

people request a bicycle map over the past few years. Now that we have made significant progress expanding our system of trails, it was the right time to make this available."

Funding for the bicycle map was provided by a grant from the Eastman Kodak Company. The grant was administered by The Conservation Fund in partnership with Kodak and the National Geographic Society. Kodak American Greenways Awards provide small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America.

"We hope this map encourages even more people to travel through the City via bicycle," said Jeff Radan, the City's bikeway coordinator. "It is a fast, convenient and healthy activity, as long as everyone—including drivers—continues to participate safely." **RR**



TIME WELL SPENT... Mentors help give at-risk youth a boost of support by improving their self esteem and confidence, coaching life skills and values and assisting with problem solving. Adults mentors are needed to be role models and friends to deserving youth on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the College Gardens Elementary School throughout the school year. To participate in this rewarding volunteer position or for more information, contact Mandy Smith at the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services at 240-314-8318 or msmith@rockvillemd.gov.

WRITE Promotes Safe Driving

A driver runs a red light and almost hits a pedestrian on Jefferson Street. A motorcycle driver is speeding recklessly on West Montgomery Avenue.

City of Rockville Police patrol Rockville's streets at all hours, but sometimes they are not there when someone is breaking the law. Witnessing people driving recklessly can be frustrating to many Rockville citizens—and potentially deadly for others. Often, observers feel nothing can be, or will be, done about what they have witnessed. But that is far from correct.

Witnesses to such incidents can easily be a part of the solution to curbing traffic violations through an ongoing Rockville program called Witness Report in Traffic Enforcement (WRITE). Since 1989, the Rockville City Police Department has conducted WRITE, which enables citizens to report a vehicle for minor violations of the traffic code.

A citizen who witnesses a possible violation can call City Police and will speak with an officer. The witness will be asked for information about the inci-

dent, such as date, time, location of occurrence, vehicle description, license plate number and briefly what offense took place.

After the call is complete, a letter will be sent to the owner of the vehicle describing the offense and urging him or her to comply with the traffic code. The letter does not contain information about the caller. It is written in a way to encourage the owner to correct his or her driving habits, or the habits of someone else who may have been driving the vehicle at that place and time.

"It's a good way to help warn motorists that their driving behavior has been noticed," said Rockville Police Chief Terry Treschuk. "This is a way for citizens to report behavior in their neighborhoods."

The program has been successful in helping to curb reckless behavior, particularly for parents of young drivers and business owners with employee drivers.

People who report violations do not need to appear in court or complete any other additional paperwork. **RR**

School is Open at Rockville University

While Rockville children are back in the usual area schools, a group of somewhat older residents will be headed for a different type of class. And there is still time to join them.

Rockville University—a free, eight-week citizen awareness program sponsored by the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services—will open its doors once again this fall to help educate citizens about their community.

The 10th session of Rockville U will be held every Wednesday from 7-9:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 22 at the Rockville Senior

Center at 1150 Carnation Drive.

"Hundreds of citizens have learned a lot from the weeks they participated in Rockville U," said Dwayne Jenkins, one of the City's neighborhood resources coordinator. "Empowered with the knowledge they gain, many have gone on to hold leadership positions in their communities and even run for Mayor and City Council."

Rockville University is open to any Rockville resident, 16 and older, who is curious about the dynamics of their community, likes hands-on learning and enjoys having fun.

Enhanced areas of learning for fall 2004 include sessions about the local business community, the latest demographic trends that affect the community and an expanded overview of Rockville's history.

"If people just come to the classes and learn about Rockville, that is great," said Jenkins. "If they graduate and leave inspired enough to get involved in the government or with their local neighborhood, that is simply a bonus."

Sharpen your pencils and enroll soon because class size is limited. To register, call Jenkins at 240-314-8343 or e-mail djenkins@rockvillemd.gov. **RR**



It's Playtime! Get Ready for Fall With Lots of Recreation in City Guide

The City of Rockville's Recreation and Parks Department has something for everyone this fall. And the best way to learn about these activities and events is Rockville's Fall 2004 Recreation Guide, which was mailed to residents in August and also is available online.

One of the newest programs offered by the Recreation Department is a series of "One Day Fun Days." Targeted toward students of elementary and middle school age, these programs offer parents an alternative to taking a day off of work to care for their children when school is closed for special days. Ranging from karate to golf, these one-day or half-day

programs encourage children to have fun and learn a new activity while under the supervision of trained City staff.

Another newly structured program for grade school youngsters is the after-school "Kidz Clubs." Kidz Clubs now will offer children the opportunity to join themed six-week sessions focused on literacy, games or arts and crafts at four locations in Rockville. Trained City staff supervises children as they spend time working on homework, playing games and doing arts and crafts—as well as participating in theme related-activities and taking field trips.

"We love offering a wide va-

riety of programs," said Phil Bryan, Rockville's superintendent of recreation. "And we are always looking for new programs that fit with the lifestyles of our residents. This fall, we have some new twists that we think are going to be big hits. And with Rock Enroll, where participants can register online for many activities, we think that this could be one of our biggest seasons ever."

The Rec Guide is available online at www.rockvillemd.gov (click on Rock Enroll).

— Contributed by Amy Orndorff



WELCOME TO THE FORCE... Police Officer David Trogolo shakes hands with Police Chief Terry Treschuk after Trogolo received his diploma from the Police Training Academy. "I have always been interested in helping people and working in the community," said Trogolo, one of the City's newest officers. Before joining the force, Trogolo was an electrician for 11 years as well as a Marine Corps Reservist. He returned in Sept. 2003 from Iraq, where he served as a platoon sergeant for seven months.

INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the City Government at Work



Richard Martin, above, second from left, was nominated by Herbert Hutchings for the Good Neighbor Awards presented by the Mayor and Council on July 26. Hutchings mentioned many acts by Martin, including the mid-winter night when a drainpipe on the Hutchings home froze and Martin climbed on the roof to free the drain so melting water would not cause damage. “Mr. Martin is a very generous and helpful man,” wrote Hutchings. “He is a great neighbor and a perfect example for children and others of what citizenship and responsibility are all about.”

Rockville Honors ‘Good Neighbors’

Rockville’s Mayor and Council honored 16 individual residents and 14 families on July 26 with “Good Neighbor Awards” in the second year of the annual program that recognizes residents who contribute to bettering their communities.

The program, which salutes citizens who improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods, was created by the Neighborhood Resources Division of the City’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. The honorees received plaques signifying their contributions were nominated by other residents.

“When we started this program last year, we hoped that by recognizing the goodwill efforts that these citizens have made on behalf of their neighbors and community, it would inspire others to do the same,” said Guerdon Stuckey, Rockville’s Director of Neighborhood and Community Services. “What we have discovered is that people throughout Rockville have been doing a wide range of activities that make their communities better places to live.”

The individuals honored were: Susanna Barber, Max and Maryann Bliss, Christine Eldarrat, James Gibson, Arthur Goldberg, Richard Martin, Teresa Maxwell, Hani Miletski,

William Nickel, Carl Peterson, Deborah King, Englert Richey, Theodore Reuther, Gertrude Ryan, Chandra Tak and John Wright.

In the spirit of true community spirit, nine families from Rice Court and five families from Auburn Avenue were honored for working together to assist neighbor Rosa Culleen. Culleen, 74, said she had been ill, but her neighbors banded together to take care of her and her home during her recovery.

“Many meals have come to my house,” she wrote in nominating her neighbors. “The children are so thoughtful with Teddy Bears, pillows, hard-boiled eggs, pictures, visits and even artificial flowers (when they knew I could not have fresh ones). My yard has been mowed repeatedly and snow removed every time last year with neighbors trying to be the first here. ... I know they should all be recognized as the perfect neighbors in a perfect neighborhood.”

Individual honorees were selected for a variety of acts including shoveling snow for neighbors, volunteering to write and publish community newsletters, serving on community association boards, organizing neighborhood events and other helpful activities in their areas. [RR](#)

City Manager Search Ongoing

Rockville’s search for a new city manager is ongoing after the Mayor and Council decided not to offer a contract to any of the four candidates that came to Rockville in late July for personal interviews.

The four candidates met members of the City staff at a lunch reception on Friday, July 23, and met with invited members of City

boards and commissions and heads of community associations later that day. The Mayor and Council conducted interviews with each of the candidates on Saturday, July 24.

“We have elected not to offer a contract to any of the four candidates and we will work with the Slavin Management search firm to find a city manager that will be right for Rockville,” said Mayor Larry Giammo. [RR](#)

Mayor and Council Revise Meeting Schedule

Rockville’s Mayor and Council will have a revised schedule for general sessions, public hearings and worksessions starting with the first meeting night in September.

The schedule change, which will go into effect starting Monday, Sept. 13, will allow more items to be addressed on each meeting night, while also providing for occasional open dates. For much of the past three years, the Mayor and Council have been meeting virtually every Monday night (except for recess periods), in addition to frequent meetings on other nights of the week.

Under the new schedule, some worksessions will begin at 5:30 p.m., preceding general sessions (whose starting times remain at 7 p.m.). Public hearings often will be held on the same

nights as general sessions or worksessions.

The Mayor and Council’s drop-in meeting schedule also will be changing. Generally, there will be one drop-in meeting planned per month. See box to the right for more information.

The Rockville tradition of Citizens Forum, where any citizen gets up to three minutes to speak on any topic, will remain as part of every general session, but will now be split into two sections. Speakers who sign up in advance or who will be addressing topics that are on the main agenda of that night can speak early in the general session. All other speakers will have time to address the Mayor and Council after the regular general session agenda is completed. [RR](#)

Optional Method: Now the Mayor and Council’s Option

The “optional method of development” is a term sometimes used in connection with proposed new developments in Rockville. In Rockville’s zoning ordinance, this refers to requests by developers for additional height or density as permitted in a particular zone.

The City’s zoning ordinance previously granted Rockville’s Planning Commission the authority to review Preliminary Development Plans in the Town Center zone (unless the site was owned by the City, or had been sold to the applicant by the City), Rockville Pike Corridor, and in part of the City’s I-3 zone. However, in recent months, members of the Mayor and Council expressed concern that critical decisions regarding the City’s development future were left with an appointed commission rather than elected officials.

On Aug. 2, the Mayor and Council amended the zoning or-

dinance to give themselves the responsibility for approval or disapproval of decisions involving Preliminary Development Plans that include the optional method of development.

“By having the Mayor and Council act on the PDP, they will be making the initial policy consideration as to whether the applications is consistent with the master plan and other City policies,” City staff wrote in analyzing the proposal.

Councilmember John Hall, Jr., said at a July 26 general session that decisions made involving the optional method of development have a great long-term impact on the community. He stressed that the voting process is the most important method residents have to express their pleasure or displeasure with those decisions, and the Mayor and Council must make themselves accountable by making those decisions. [RR](#)



National Night Out on Aug. 3 again was a big evening of community block parties in Rockville. More than three dozen parties around the City continued the tradition of helping unite neighborhoods. Members of the Mayor and Council, City Police and City staff were among those who visited parties. Above, Councilmember Susan Hoffmann (center) joins in the festivities at the Americana Centre condominium complex.



Mayor
Larry Giammo



Councilmember
Robert E. (Bob) Dorsey



Councilmember
John F. Hall, Jr.



Councilmember
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember
Anne M. Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

Citizens have an opportunity to meet with the Mayor and one member of the Council on a drop-in basis at least one Monday evening per month. “Drop-in” takes place in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Check the City’s Web site www.rockvillemd.gov or call the City Clerk’s Office at 240-314-8280 for more information.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, the Councilmembers scheduled for September and October are:

- **Sept. 20:** Bob Dorsey
- **Oct. 18:** John Hall, Jr.

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel, and are available on streaming video at www.rockvillemd.gov. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Sept. 13 (Mon.)** Worksession (if needed), 5:30 p.m., General Session/Public Hearing, 7 p.m.
- **Sept. 20 (Mon.)** Worksession, 7 p.m. (if needed)

Dates and times are subject to change. Visit the City’s Web site and click on Mayor and Council or call the City Clerk’s Office at 240-314-8280 to verify the above planned schedule.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Cultural Arts Commission (two)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (one at-large)
- Human Rights Commission (one)
- Landlord/Tenant (one/tenant)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.



About 400 canines, like the pooch above, cooled off at the first Swim Center Doggie Dip Day last year. It is a bring-your-own fetch toy party!

Swim Center Hosts Dog-gone Wet Fun

Rockville's 2nd Doggie Dip Day Set for Sat., Sept. 11

The Rockville Municipal Swim Center will celebrate the conclusion of a successful summer outdoor swim season with its second annual Doggie Dip Day from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 11.

A crowd of more than 400 people and pets attended last year's event, which included dogs of all breeds frolicking in the Swim Center's outdoor recreation pool, while their owners checked out a variety of dog-focused vendors.

Doggie Dip Day takes place after humans have used the outdoor pools for the last time of the swim season.

Proceeds from the event go to the Montgomery County Humane Society.

"We were thrilled with the number of people and pets who came to the first Doggie Dip Day last year," said Beth Fowler, aquatics supervisor of the Swim Center. "This year we have planned for even more vendors and lots more fun for everyone. For most dogs, it is a rare opportunity to cool off and play around in a pool. For dog owners, it is a chance to keep their pets busy—and meet other dog owners. It turned out to be a good social time last year and should be even better this year."

Fowler said there also will be a "few special guests" everyone will enjoy meeting. A co-host of this

year's event will be one of the City's top dogs, Rocko, of the Police Canine Unit. Together with his partner, Officer Kyle Dickerson, a five-year Rockville Police veteran, they will introduce the community to the first K-9 unit in more than 20 years to patrol the City streets.

Another co-host will be Ben Hogan, an "employee" of the City's RedGate Municipal Golf Course. The main job of canine Ben Hogan is to roam the course and scatter geese that can cause maintenance problems.

A number of vendors specializing in dog products and services, such as obedience schools and area pet stores, will have booths to answer questions and distribute pet information.

The cost for Doggie Dip Day is \$3 per dog residing in the City of Rockville and \$4 for dogs outside of the City. Owners and guests enter free, unless they will be swimming in the indoor pool or using other Swim Center facilities.

All dogs must be registered with Montgomery County and be under the control of their owners. People will not be allowed to enter the outdoor recreation pool with the dogs due to health and safety conditions. Owners are responsible for picking up all of their animal's droppings.

For more information, contact Beth Fowler at 240-314-8754. [RR](#)

J Street Jumpers Leap to Conclusion of Dig It! Concerts

Rockville's new Town Center is ready to emerge, and the best way to monitor the progress of construction is to Dig It!

The J Street Jumpers will bring closed-off Maryland Avenue alive on Thursday, Sept. 16, starting at 7 p.m. with the final outdoor concert of Rockville's new 2004 Dig It! summer series that has allowed residents to see the progress and enjoy leisurely evening entertainment.

The series will conclude at high energy as the J Street Jumpers play their classic swing and jump-blues of the 1930s, 40s and 50s.

The Dig It! stage is set up on Maryland Avenue between East Middle Lane and East Montgomery Avenue—just across from the site of the future Rockville Town Square development.

The popularity of the Dig It! series already has prompted a return to Town

Center in 2005.

"Many people are very anxious to see the progress of Town Center construction," said Mike Henry, Rockville's coordinator of special events. "Dig It! is a great excuse to come down and to see the progress of construction first hand."

To best enjoy the concert, bring a blanket and/or chair for comfortable seating—and a picnic dinner. Dancing shoes also are highly recommended. [RR](#)

Seniors Walking for Memory on Oct. 3

The Rockville Senior Center has always been more than a place for daily activities. It has been a place where people can better and expand their lives, and it has served as an advocate of programs that help senior citizens.

Continuing that mission, on Sunday, Oct. 3, the Senior Center will lead a team of enthusiastic walkers to support the Alzheimer's Association's National Capital Area chapter.

Rockville area residents of all ages are invited to be a part of "The Rockville Senior Center Memory Walkers" either by walking on the team or sponsoring a participant. Team registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at Courthouse Square in Rockville Town Center. The Walk takes place from 10 a.m. – 12 noon. Participants can

choose to walk one or three miles.

"Many of us know the devastating effects of Alzheimer's first hand with our family or friends," said Lorraine Schack, the social services coordinator at the Senior Center. "The more we fund research, the closer we get to finding a cure. But in the meantime it is also imperative we support those living with the disease."

Since 1989, Memory Walks across the country have raised more than \$120 million and are the largest fundraising events for Alzheimer's research and support. Montgomery County's fundraising goal this year is \$100,000.

Alzheimer's disease and related dementias rob the memories of victims, restricts their ability to function and eventu-

ally takes their lives after years of battling the illness.

Nearly 4.5 million Americans currently have Alzheimer's disease and the number is rising fast as the total number of people over 65 years of age increases. The other unrecognized victims of these diseases are the family members and caregivers of those afflicted. Their stress and anguish, as they struggle to provide care, goes on for years.

For more information on the Memory Walk or to sign-up or support a Senior Center participant, visit the Rockville Senior Center at 1150 Carnation Drive or call 240-314-8810.

There is no registration fee, but the Alzheimer's Association, National Capital Area chapter encourages walkers to raise a minimum of \$250. [RR](#)

'Beacon of Safety' Sign-up Underway

Rockville Police, Volunteer Fire Department Endorse and Distribute Emergency Bulbs

The "Beacon of Safety" emergency light bulb program jointly sponsored by the City of Rockville Police and the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department is now underway, with residents strongly encouraged to sign up to receive the innovative bulbs that could mean the difference between life and death in critical situations.

The 'Beacon of Safety' light bulbs are provided free to residents who request them.

Among the places the agencies will be accepting sign-ups in September is the first annual Rockville Arts and Music Festival on Saturday, Sept. 18, in Rockville Town Center.

The bulbs, which are installed in regular outdoor porch sockets or in indoor lamps near front windows, flash continuously when activated. The flashing bulbs will enable responding emergency personnel to easily



Members of the City of Rockville Police, the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and the Mayor and Council on National Night Out urged residents to join the Beacon of Safety program.

find a home that has placed a call for assistance.

The program will be targeting situations that are most likely to have a need for emergency services such as people with health-related issues, the disabled and senior citizens.

The bulbs will be delivered by representatives of the Rockville City Police and the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department, who will come to homes,

install the emergency beacon, show homeowners when and how to use them and also offer other safety tips.

Rockville is the first jurisdiction in the Washington area to provide innovative emergency light bulbs to residents who could be in need of emergency services.

To sign-up to receive a bulb, call the Beacon of Safety program at 240-314-8910. [RR](#)



ROCKVILLE YOUTH ORCHESTRA AUDITIONS... *Have a young Mozart? Bring him or her to audition for the Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra Sept. 2, 7, 8, 9, 13 and 14. The orchestra is looking for talented children entering grades 4-9 to join their fifth season. Directed by Leah Kocsis, the orchestra will practice Tuesdays from 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. between Sept. 21-June 7. Performances will be held at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater on Sundays Jan. 30 and June 12. For more information or to set up an audition, call Kathleen Moran 240-314-8682 or email at kmoran@rockvillemd.gov.*

In Brief

Saturday Farmers’ Market Continues

Just because we live in the city does not mean we can’t enjoy farm fresh produce! Save Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for shopping at the Rockville Growers Only Farmers’ Market now located in the Montgomery County juror’s parking lot at the corner of Jefferson Street (Route 28) and Monroe Street. See you at the market!

CALL 240-310-5022 FOR INFO

RAP Celebrates New Arts Location

Rockville Arts Place will hold an open house Sept. 12 from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. at its temporary home for the next three years. The new building at 9300 Gather Road in Gaithersburg, just outside of Rockville, includes a glass studio, ceramics studio, photography studio, painting/drawing studio and a studio just for young children. Tour the new building, view a new exhibit “A Sense of Place” and participate in fun art activities for free at the open house.

CALL 301-309-6900 FOR INFO

Be a City Trips and Tours Leader

If you love organizing adventures with family and friends, then use your skills to help the City. Volunteers are needed to host upcoming City-sponsored outdoor recreation trips and tours. For an overview of the program and how to be a trip leader, attend an informational meeting on Thursday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Boards and Commissions Conference Room at City Hall. All trips are planned by City staff; leaders simply make sure everyone is safe and has fun.

Register by Sept. 8 with Susan Klise at sklise@rockvillemd.gov.

CALL 240-314-8641 FOR INFO

Wednesday’s Thing to Do: Out to Lunch

Rockville Town Center restaurants put on their best, East Montgomery Avenue becomes a street market and the whole scene is part of a lunchtime concert every Wednesday for the City’s “Out to Lunch Wednesdays.” Held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the City sponsors the event every Wednesday through October. September’s performers include: **Sept. 1 – The Grandsons:** Roots Rock **Sept. 8 – Rita Clarke and the Naturals:** Bayou rhythms **Sept. 15 – Lisa Moscatiello and Rosie Shipley:** Irish traditional **Sept. 22 – Rhodes Tavern Troubadours:** Original rock **Sept. 29 – Jeff Ball:** Native American flute

CALL 240-314-5022 FOR INFO

Chorus Auditions Take Place Sept. 13

Tired of singing by yourself in the shower? Come audition for the Rockville Chorus and share your talent with the City. The Rockville Chorus will hold auditions for the fall 2004 season on Monday, Sept. 13, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. by appointment only. Weekly rehearsals will be held on Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center.

CALL 240-314-8682 FOR INFO

REDI Opens New Doors Sept. 9

Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) is officially opening its doors to the Rockville community at its new offices located at 95 Monroe Street. The grand opening will take place Thursday, Sept. 9, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with the ribbon cutting at 10:30 a.m. For more information visit REDI’s Web site at www.RockvilleREDI.org.

CALL 301-315-8097 FOR INFO

Senior Center Seeks Bingo Manager

The Senior Center is seeking a bingo manager. This volunteer is needed from 5-10:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings and then one hour on Thursdays. While this is a volunteer role, the hours worked count toward free Senior Center membership.

CALL 240-314-8800 FOR INFO

Montgomery College Hosts Guest Artists

A new series of performances are planned for the Arts Center at Montgomery College. The series will begin on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 17 and 18, at 8 p.m. with *Crazy for You*. It is an adaptation of the Gershwin hit *Crazy Girl*. Visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC for more information.

CALL 301-279-5301 FOR INFO

Para usted

El primer Festival de Artes y Música de Rockville se realizará el sábado 18 de septiembre en los alrededores del *Courthouse Square Park* en el Centro de la Ciudad de Rockville. El Festival, que se extenderá desde las 11 de la mañana a las 7 de la tarde, será el nuevo hogar del Concurso Regional de Cocina de la Bahía de Chesapeake organizado por la Sociedad Internacional del Ají y tendrá como sabor de fondo a la Banda New Berth Brass de Nueva Orleans.

El festival de Rockville del otoño anterior, “El Espíritu de Rockville,” estuvo principalmente dedicado a celebrar la gran diversidad cultural de la Ciudad. El nuevo festival sigue celebrando las diferentes culturas y se amplía para incluir muchas otras de sus características. Se espera así atraer una gran concurrencia al Centro de la Ciudad para festejar el 24. Para más información, llame a Mike Henry al 240-314-8605.

Translated by
— Victoria Imas-Duchovny

CITY

1,8,15,22,29-Oct. 27

Out to Lunch Wednesdays Food, music and Farmers’ market. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. East Montgomery Avenue.

4,11,18,25-Oct.30

Rockville Growers’ Only Saturday Farmers Market 9 a.m.-1 p.m. New location. Juror’s Parking Lot at the corner of East Jefferson Avenue and Monroe Street. Free parking.

11 Doggie Dip Day. Saturday, Sept. 11, from 12 noon - 4 p.m. \$3 per dog for residents/ \$4 non-residents. For more information, call 240-314-8754.

16 J Street Jumpers at DIG-IT! Concert Series See the progress of Town Center while enjoying free, live swing music. 7 p.m. Maryland Avenue between Middle Lane and East Montgomery Avenue.

18 Arts and Music Festival. New chili cook-off and cultural celebration. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Courthouse Square Park in Rockville Town Center. Call 240-314-5022.

ARTS

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville’s Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Service charges apply.

september calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

Thru Oct. 15

“Sculpture On the Grounds” 16th Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit Juried Regional Artists Show. Rockville Civic Center Park Grounds. Free.

2,3,4,10,11,12,17,18

Rockville Little Theater presents *Laura* 8 p.m. (matinee on Sept. 12 at 2 p.m.) at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater. Tickets \$14 (Sept. 2 tickets for Seniors are \$4)

2,7,8,9,13,14

Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra auditions. Students in grades 4-9 eligible. Call 240-314-8682 or e-mail kmoran@rockvillemd.gov.

3-28 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Exhibits: Caroline Thorington – lithograph prints, Yellow Barn Faculty – paintings. Reception 1 -4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12. Artist talk 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23. Call 240-314-8682 for more information.

12 Glenview Mansion Sunday Afternoon Concert Series 2 p.m. U.S. Navy Band Ensemble with Sea Chanter, guest vocalists. American music repertoire. Free. Seating on a first-come basis. Call 240-314-8682 for more information.

13 Rockville Chorus auditions from 6:30 -7:30 p.m. Weekly rehearsals will be held 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center. Call 240-314-8682 for an appointment.

26 Rockville Concert Band performance, 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Free, donations accepted. Patriotic marches, show tunes and American favorites. Call 240-314-8681 for more information.

NATURE CENTER

The staff at the Croydon Creek Nature Center are preparing the Center’s exhibits for another exciting season of events. Programs will resume next month.

SENIORS

1 Medicare 2004 and Beyond 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Free

1 Birthday Party, 1:30 p.m. Entertainment by the Lazy River Jazz Band, Free. Register by Aug. 29

7-14 E-mail Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$20 MEM/\$26 NM

8 Meet the Mrs. 10:30 a.m. Free. Register by Sept. 1

10 Putting Your Garden to Rest 10:15 a.m. Free. Register by Sept. 3

11 Intergenerational Board Games 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Free. Register by Sept. 1

13,20,27-Oct. 25 Beginner Group Piano 10:15 a.m. Register by Sept. 3, \$60 MEM/ \$72 NM

14 Save Your Feet 10:15 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Free

15 Balance and Fall Assessments 10 a.m.-12 noon. Free

20 In-person English Class Registration 10:30 a.m. \$10 MEM/ \$13 NM

20,22,27,29-Nov.7 Citizenship Class 12:30 -2:30 p.m. In-person registration the first day of class. Free.

21 Genealogy 10:15 a.m. 3 monthly sessions. Register by Sept. 14. \$12 MEM/\$15 NM

21,22 Introduction to Woodworking 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Register by Sept. 7. \$46 MEM/\$58 NM

21,28-Oct.26 Beginner Watercolor 1-3 p.m. Register by Sept. 7. \$44 MEM/\$55 NM. \$6 material fee

28 Painting on Glass 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Register by Sept. 9 \$8 MEM/ \$10 NM. \$15 material fee

29-October 21 Clases de Computadora para Principantes Call 240-314-8817 for information.

29 Casual Chinese Cuisine Cooking 10 a.m.-12 noon. Register by Sept. 14 \$25 MEM/ \$31 NM

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

2 Board of Appeals, 9:30 a.m.

12 Human Services Advisory Commission, 7:30 p.m., Suite 205, 20 Courthouse Square

12 Commission on the Environment, 7:30 p.m.

13 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

13 Cultural Arts Commission, 7 p.m.

18 Sign Review Board, 4 p.m. (held as needed)

19 Rockville Seniors, Inc., 1 p.m., Senior Center

19 Town Center Action Team, 7 p.m., Room 105, Red Brick Courthouse

20 Rockville Housing Enterprises, 6:30 p.m., 14 Moore Dr.

21 Historic District Commission, 7 p.m.

21 Rockville Sister City Corporation, 7:30 p.m.

21 Senior Citizens Commission, 10 a.m., Senior Center

26 Traffic and Transportation Commission, 7:30 p.m.

27 Human Rights Commission, 7:30 p.m.

27 Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., 95 Monroe Street (call 301-315-8096)

27 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

28 Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, 7 p.m., Pump House

Rockville Up Close: Town Center Action Team

Vital to the success of the new Rockville Town Center is citizen input. One of the most influential citizen groups providing feedback on development of the City's future downtown is the Town Center Action Team (TCAT). TCAT developed out of the community visioning process of the 1990s called "Imagine Rockville." Many of the ideas from that process helped to shape the plans for Rockville's new Town Center. As construction of Phase I of Town Center redevelopment begins in its first stages, TCAT has served as self-appointed and self-perpetuating advisory group for more than five years. It has survived seeking to help with the long-term plan for Town Center. Several groups that were concerned with getting the initial plans to reality have since disbanded. TCAT meets once per month and meetings are open



TCAT past committee chairs (left to right) Paul Newman, Aileen Klein and Ellen Sachs stand with current chairman Martin Heilman on the new Town Square construction site.

to anyone interested in the Town Center project. While the number of attendees can be anywhere from six to 20, the mission remains the same: Providing regular feedback to Town Center planners and developers. The group hears presentations at each meeting and voices opinions on the topics for discussion, which have included business relocation and parking.

TCAT members also assist Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI), the city's economic development organization, with volunteer projects such as distributing information about Town Center at City events. "TCAT is a valuable part of the new Town Center's progress," said Sally Sternbach, executive director of REDI. "It

gives citizens a regular format for discussing Town Center projects with people who are directly involved in the project at the highest levels." Martin Heilman, a Town Center resident, is now serving his second chairmanship of the group because he wants to be involved in the decisions for development taking place in his community. "I live in The Victoria," said Heilman, whose condominium is across the street from the new 12.5-acre Town Square project. "We are talking about what is going on right outside of my balcony. We need a balance of residential and business that will keep the area alive after businesses close—or alive after 5." TCAT meetings are open to the public and take place the third Tuesday of each month in Room 105 at the Red Brick Courthouse. For more information visit www.RockvilleREDI.org or contact Heilman at 301-738-1096. RR

TRC 11: Features Hi-Tech Police and Diversity

Go behind the scenes and discover the new technology the Rockville City Police Department is using to help protect the area through The Rockville Channel's (TRC 11) new program "Hi-tech Patrol: Keeping Rockville Safe." Another new program that will start airing on TRC 11 in September is the final segment of a three-part series on diversity in Rockville. This segment focuses on Rockville's Asian culture. Produced by the City's TRC 11 staff, "Hi-tech Patrol: Keeping Rockville Safe" focuses on the police department's recent upgrade in technology, in particular, it's new communications center located at City hall.

The show also discusses the new 800-megahertz radios that can be used in a variety of situations and mobile data systems. In a time when homeland security is a concern of everyone, the program will detail how Rockville police use their state-of-the-art equipment to work with other public safety agencies in the metropolitan area to share information. The new technology enables Rockville Police to better serve and protect citizens and businesses. Other TRC 11-produced special programs that can be seen in September include "Exploring Rockville's Past," "Preserving Rockville's Past," "Mosquito Control," "Permit Process," "Destination:

rockvillemd.gov," "Air Quality Codes" and "Every 15 Minutes." The Rockville Channel is a municipal government station provided to the City of Rockville under the terms of a cable television franchise agreement. Its primary purpose is to provide information about policies and operations of Rockville city government and related matters. Over the past decade, TRC has been recognized with numerous national and local awards for the quality of the content and production values of its programming. The complete schedule for all TRC programs is below and on the City's Web site, www.rockvillemd.gov. RR




Police Sergeant Alan Rawlins shows off a City computer attached to a motorcycle. The Rockville City Police Department's recent upgrade in technology is the subject of a new program on TRC 11.

Volunteer Time: City Junior Leaders

There are many ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations by volunteering in the City. Each month "Volunteer Time" will highlight a different opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community. As area teenagers head back to school, many may be looking for places to volunteer their time to fulfill their Maryland service learning requirements mandated for high school graduation. Opportunities still are available in Rockville's Junior Leaders program, which has welcomed dozens of middle and high school students in the past. Each semester 15 to 20 students sign up to help out with the City's Kidz Club after-school program. In summer, Junior Leaders also can assist with the City's Playgrounds program.

Kidz Club assignments offer volunteers the opportunity to learn many skills. The teens are assigned to help City staff organize a variety of activities for elementary-aged children including trips, games, sports and creative play. During the school year, the older students also are asked to help out the younger children with reading, writing and other homework. "The City's Junior Leaders have a unique opportunity to use their skills to help someone younger than themselves," said Karen Rawlins, community recreation programs supervisor. "Our coordinator, Tania Harriday, started as a Junior Leader herself not so long ago." The volunteer program is very flexible for teens, who must often balance their own schoolwork and extracurricular activities with volunteer opportunities. Students can volunteer one day per week or more at locations throughout the City. For more information or to sign up to be a City Junior Leader, contact Rawlins or Harriday at 240-314-8633 or krawlins@rockvillemd.gov. RR

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL SEPTEMBER PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission
6 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 am	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 am	Mosquito Control	Air Quality Codes	Permit Process	Air Quality Codes	Hi-Tech Patrol	Permit Process	Permit Process
7:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 am	Mayor & Council	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council
9 am		Diversity in the City	Exploring Rockville's Past	Hi-Tech Patrol	Mosquito Control	Diversity in the City	
9:30 am			Preserving Rockville's Past	Mosquito Control	Hi-Tech Patrol		
10 am		Hi-Tech Patrol	Mosquito Control	Diversity in the City	Destination: rockvillemd.gov	Permit Process	
10:30 am		Permit Process	Air Quality Codes		Exploring Rockville's Past	Hi-Tech Patrol	
11 am	Cityline	Destination: rockvillemd.gov	Hi-Tech Patrol	Destination: rockvillemd.gov	Preserving Rockville's Past	Air Quality Codes	Cityline
11:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 pm	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 pm until meeting ends	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission
4 pm	Diversity in the City		Mosquito Control	Hi-Tech Patrol		Diversity in the City	
4:30 pm		Exploring Rockville's Past	Permit Process	Exploring Rockville's Past	Permit Process		Permit Process
5 pm	Hi-Tech Patrol	Preserving Rockville's Past	Destination: rockvillemd.gov	Diversity in the City	Preserving Rockville's Past	Hi-Tech Patrol	Exploring Rockville's Past
5:30 pm	Exploring Rockville's Past	Hi-Tech Patrol	Air Quality Codes		Destination: rockvillemd.gov	Every 15 Minutes	Preserving Rockville's Past
6 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 pm	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Diversity in the City	Planning Commission	RISE	Mayor & Council	Hi-Tech Patrol
7:30 pm					Hi-Tech Patrol		Mosquito Control
8 pm			Hi-Tech Patrol Keeping Rockville Safe		Diversity in the City		Every 15 Minutes
8:30 pm			Exploring Rockville's Past				Diversity in the City
9 pm			Preserving Rockville's Past		Mosquito Control		
9:30 pm			Cityline		Cityline		Cityline
10 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 pm	Air Quality Codes	Exploring Rockville's Past	Hi-Tech Patrol	Diversity in the City	Hi-Tech Patrol	Every 15 Minutes	Hi-Tech Patrol
11:30 pm	Mosquito Control	Hi-Tech Patrol	Destination: rockvillemd.gov		Destination: rockvillemd.gov	Preserving Rockville's Past	Permit Process



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